REMARKS

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102/35 USC § 103(a)

The claims of the application are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 and 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Matsumura et al., JP 2001-294445 ("Matsumura"), alone and in combination with various teaching references. Each of these rejections is based on the premise that Matsumura discloses each of the components of the paste composition of the present invention in the correct sizes. (Action, page 8, lines 5-6).

The claims of the present application have been amended to limit the resin of the paste composition of the present invention to a thermosetting resin. Support for this limitation is found in the specification on page 22, lines 13-16.

Matsumura, on the other hand, does not disclose a composition containing a thermosetting resin. Matsumura discloses that "[t]he binder resin substrate is not particularly limited as long as it is a resin which ... is quickly heat-decomposing and evaporative." {Paragraph [0020]). Cellulose type resins and acrylic resins are exemplified as suitable resins. The acrylic resin is more particularly described in paragraph [0020] as a copolymer containing at least an acrylic type monomer among the polymerizing components. Nowhere does Matsumura disclose or suggest that the

acrylic copolymer is a thermosetting resin. In the examples, "Joncryl" 611 is used as the acrylic polymer (Paragraph [0028]). "Joncryl" 611 is a thermoplastic resin having a softening point of 112°C and a Tg of 50°C (see attached catalog).

The Office notes in the Action that Matsumura discloses that the resin can be made from a glycidyl acrylate monomer which makes epoxy resins. Copolymers containing glycidyl acrylate are not necessarily epoxy resins and are not necessarily thermosetting resins. Glycidyl acrylate is described in Matsumura as an example of a component of a copolymer that can be pyrolyzed. Therefore, the monomer is not used to make an epoxy, i.e., thermosetting, resin in Matsumura.

Removal of the rejections based on Matsumura is in order and is respectfully requested.

The foregoing is believed to be a complete and proper response to the Office Action dated August 5, 2008, and is believed to place this application in condition for allowance. If, however, minor issues remain that can be resolved by means of a telephone interview, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

In the event that this paper is not considered to be timely filed, applicants hereby petition for an appropriate extension of

time. The fee for any such extension may be charged to Deposit Account No. 111833.

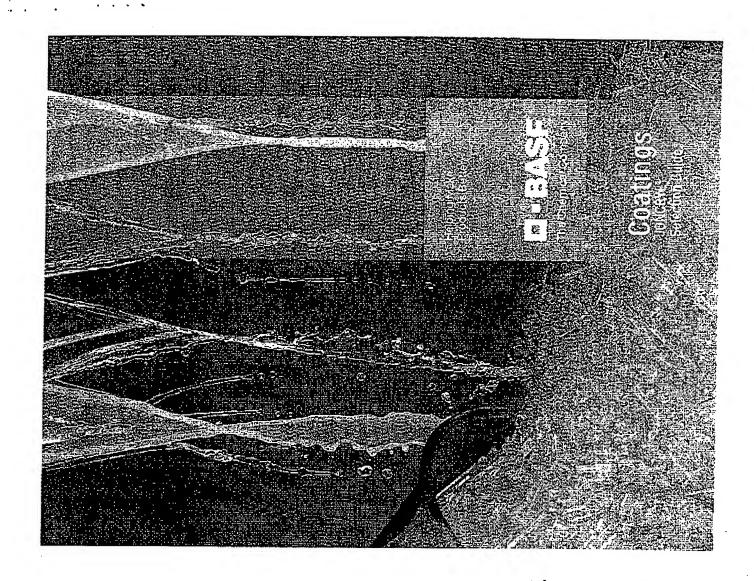
In the event any additional fees are required, please also charge Deposit Account No. 111833.

Respectfully submitted,

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